

# HAM RAG



Visit our website for more club and area ham information  
In the Rockford area at <http://www.w9axd.org>

## RARA Mission Statement

A member association with common interest of public service to the community through the use of amateur radio.

## June 2013

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Field Day 2013	page 1
Central States VHF	page 2
Sec. Rpt—VEC	page 3
Solar Flux Value	page 4
KR7RA Solar Rpt	page 5
KR7RA Solar Rpt	page 6
Hamfest Info	page 7
Treasurers Rpt	page 8

## CQ FIELD DAY CQ FIELD DAY CQ FIELD DAY

June 22d and 23th is our annual Field Day event, which is being held at Reuben Aldeen Park, 623 North Alpine Road, Rockford, IL. Come out and join the fun!

Tom Shouler, N9VJU, will be heading up our Saturday morning with "Breakfast in the Park" at 7:00 am while we start setting up the stations. At 1:00 pm Saturday to 1:00 pm on Sunday we will be operating Field Day with 2 different stations. One is for SSB, and the other is for possibly CW and digital. If you never operated before, this is an excellent time to learn. Kurt, KE9N, will have a SSB station set up for you to make contacts with, and learn about proper techniques. We would need someone to operate the CW station, and would be happy to have you come by and visit or operate. Robert Larson, KC9ICH, will be operating the digital modes. Find out how easy it is to get into digital communications. Everyone is invited, and with a control operator present, you can operate regardless of your license class. And don't forget to bring an appetite, as there will be food to eat, people to see and fun to be had!

We need help in setting up radios and antennas, operating and logging, and teardown, so if you have not already made plans let me know what you would like to do. My phone number is 815-389-2784, or you can e-mail me at : [ke9n@arrl.net](mailto:ke9n@arrl.net).

For directions to Field Day, check out the Field Day locator on the ARRL web page at :

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

On the left side, type in W9AXD in the "location or call sign" field and then press "search". You may then zoom in on our location, and click on the marker for more details.

Many of us are planning to stay overnight, so bring a tent, camper, or whatever you have, and enjoy camping and ham radio in the same weekend. See you at Field Day 2013!



### NEXT MEETING

**FRIDAY**  
**June 14 ,2013**

**Location:**  
**Foundation Room**

**Saint Anthony OSF**  
**5666 East State Street**  
**Rockford, Illinois**

**Program:**  
**Field Day Preparations**

**Membership in**  
**Attendance**

Latest news and events on our web page: <http://www.w9axd.org>

## Central States VHF Society Conference

Hi folks;

I would like to extend an invitation to your membership to consider attending the Central States VHF Society conference this summer, being held in the greater Chicago area. Please distribute this invite to your members via your club remailer. I have copied below the general information from the CSVHFS organizing committee;

Greetings !

The online registration for the 2013 Central States VHF Society Conference is now available. The 2013 Conference will be held near Chicago at the Elk Grove Village, IL, Holiday Inn from Thursday July 25th until Sunday July 28. This year's Conference location allows for free Hotel transportation to and from the Chicago-O'Hare Airport and has easy access from major interstate routes.

Activities begin with onsite check-in and registration Thursday afternoon with the offering of a trip to the Schaumburg Boomer's baseball game at 5PM. Friday morning's activities feature the Antenna Range (144MHz-24GHz) measurements, Rover Row, Dish Display and Noise Figure Measurement Contest.

In addition to the world-class technical presentations on topics about activity on the amateur bands VHF/UHF and above; this year's conference will feature a return of the free-admission "VHF-101" introductory session on Saturday Morning !

For a up-to-date schedule of events please check the Central States VHF Society website at;  
<http://www.csvhfs.org/2013conference/agenda.html>

The 2013 Conference is honored to welcome active VHF operator and CEO of the American Radio Relay League, Mr. Dave Sumner, K1ZZ as the Saturday Banquet speaker. This will be a presentation you will not want to miss!

The Family Program includes the Schaumburg Boomer's baseball game on Thursday evening, a Friday trip to downtown Chicago's famed Michigan Avenue Shopping District and a Saturday bus trip to the Chicago Museum Campus that includes the Field Museum of Natural History, the Adler Planetarium, the John G Shedd Aquarium and the Chicago Museum of Modern Art.

This year we will be offering a (free) Sunday tour of the Fermilab National Accelerator in Batavia Illinois. There will be a group car-pool from the Hotel at 10AM Sunday and although there is no bus transportation arrangements can be provided for the return trip to O'Hare airport after the tour. This tour will present a glimpse into the hardware behind the scenes in the world of High Energy Physics. Included will be a short stop by the superconducting RF laboratory - where the RF is REALLY cool...A pair of comfortable walking shoes is suggested for the 3 hour tour.

The Central States VHF Society registration page can be found at ;  
<http://www.csvhfs.org/2013conference/2013Registration.html>

Please make early plans to attend. We look forward to seeing you in July for the 2013 Central States VHF Society Conference near Chicago.

For the 2013 CSVHF Committee

73,

Kermit Carlson W9XA

## From the Secretary

Secretary's Notes for the RARA May 10, 2013 meeting

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Robert Larson, KC9ICH, at 7:08 PM. President Doug Abrahamson, KC9SDO, and Secretary Jim Holich, AB9SX, were unable to attend due to family commitments. The meeting opened with introductions, followed by a reading of the secretary's report for April by John Olson, W9JGO. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Kurt Eversole, KE9N and seconded by TJ, KD0QHY. The motion was carried. The treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Shannon Larson, KC9QBC. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Alvin Alexander, KC9GIO, and seconded by Fred Miner, W9WOQ. The motion was carried.

A call for old business was made with no response. A call for new business resulted in Kurt, KE9N, mentioning that he had communicated with ARRL regarding our Field Day location and other pertinent information for the Field Day online locator map. Kurt also said that the June club meeting would have a discussion of Field Day plans and any one with questions or comments could call him at the number listed in the Ham Rag. Shannon, KC9QBC, mentioned that she had a contact at Midway Village. The Village is having a big event on the same weekend as Field Day, June 22 and 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is a possibility of advertising our event there with hopes of gaining some Field Day site visitors. Rich Range, WB9SFG, and Tom, N9VJU, mentioned that they have not received a return call from the new manager at Midway Village regarding the proposed telegraph offices which were supposed to be ready for the summer season, 2013. Rich wrote to the Air Fest committee regarding a possible ham station exhibit there. He has yet to receive a response. Rich is also in the process of talking to the Railway Museum at Union, IL regarding telegraph operation possibilities there. Dave Larson, N9ZXL, has manufactured several small telegraph keys with transmit/receive switches intended for the 2m MCW practice sessions. Nice looking brass straight keys with a finished wood base. These are priced at \$30 each with \$15 going to the club treasury. These are the kind of things we need to do to bolster our income to help replace the loss of On the Waterfront funds.

After the business portion of the meeting concluded, a short break was followed by presentation of the program by Robert, KC9ICH, a video / still photo record of the 2007 ISS contact with Christian Life School facilitated by quite a number of local hams, many of which are / were RARA members. The space station to school contacts are still on going today.

At 8:38 PM a motion was made by Tom, N9VJU, to close the meeting. It was seconded by Alvin, KC9GIO, and the motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted by John Olson, W9JGO, acting as secretary in the absence of Jim Holich, AB9SX

## AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

\*\*\*\*\*

May 18th there was 1 new licensee and 4 upgrades. Congratulations to:

New:  
Brian D Cihak, Technician

Upgrade:  
Jeffrey T Anderson N9JTA, Extra  
Mark E Hendel KC9YIT, General  
Randy E Kitchen K9REK, General  
Joseph K Wenstrom KC9RUH, General

Thanks to Shari Harlan N9SH, Steve Twigg W9SWT and David Stein KC9NVP for volunteering their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9AM June 15, 2013. Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10:30AM. We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring your current license and a copy. If you are using a CSCE for an element credit, bring the original and a copy (We need to see the originals & keep a photocopy of each). No copier on site. The test fee is \$14.00. Bring a non-programmable calculator.

Location:  
OSF St Anthony Medical Center  
5666 E State St (Bus US20)  
Rockford IL

Exams will be held in the St Francis Room (Main Entrance then turn right).

Rusty Cordell WB9QYV  
wb9qyv@aol.com

# Explanation of Solar Flux A and K Index Values

## Explanation of Solar Flux A and K Index

The Earth's magnetic field is continuously monitored by a network of magnetometers. These readings are converted to the A and K index values.

K index	
0	Inactive
1	Very Quiet
2	Quiet
3	Unsettled
4	Active
5	Minor Storm
6	Major Storm
7	Severe Storm
8	Very Severe Storm
9	Extremely Severe Storm

Best when 3 or lower

A Index	
0-7	Quiet
8-15	Unsettled
16-29	Active
30-49	Minor Storm
50-99	Major Storm
100-400	Severe Storm

Best when 15 or lower

The K index is computed once every 3 hours, 8/day. The values are quadri- logarithmic.

The A index is linear, and is computed from the eight previous K index values.

### AREA Repeaters

146.610 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
147.000 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
<b>ATV</b>	input 1250 Mhz/ 434 Mhz	W9ATN
	output 421.25 Mhz	
146.805 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	K9AMJ
224.440 -	ENC/DEC pl 118.8	K9AMJ
147.255 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	WX9MCS
444.725 +	ENC/DEC pl 107.2	WX9MCS
	Linked to FISHFAR	

### 2013 RARA Officers and Board

#### Officers:

President - Doug Abrahamson, KC9SDO, 815-979-0329  
 Vice President - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309  
 Secretary - Jim Holich, AB9SX, 779-552-8796  
 Treasurer - Shannon Larson, KC9QBC, 815-540-0309

#### Directors:

Kurt Eversole, KE9N 815-389-2784  
 Richard H. Range WB9SFG— 630-697-1344  
 Steve Miles— KC9WBH

Web Master - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309  
 Ham Rag Editor - Jim Holich, AB9SX, 779-552-8796  
 Repeater Chairman - Richard H. Range, WB9SFG 630-697-1344

# The K7RA Solar Report

SB PROP ARL ARLP023  
ARLP023 Propagation de K7RA

Solar activity seems to dip back into the doldrums again, with the average sunspot number for the past week (72) lower than any reporting week since Propagation Forecast Bulletin ARL-P013, which was for the week of March 21-27. You can go through the recent bulletins at <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw-bulletins-archive-propagation> and note that two weeks ago we had twice that number, when the average daily sunspot number was 144. From last week, the average dropped more than 12 points from 94.3. Average daily solar flux was down more than 10 points to 107.6.

But tracking the 3-month moving average of daily sunspot numbers, (which is based on calendar months) the three months ending May 31 had a much higher average than the 3 months ending April 30, and in fact more than any trailing three month average since the one ending on January 2012.

At the end of 2011 we saw a rally in solar activity, and with the weak activity in all of 2012 some are suggesting another double-peaked solar cycle. The three month periods centered on July through December 2011 had average sunspot numbers of 63, 79.6, 98.6, 118.8, 118.6 and 110. The first few months of 2012 were weaker, with the 3-month averages centered on January through March at 83.3, 73.7 and 71.2. But now the numbers are trending up. The 3-month averages centered on January through April 2013 were 73.6, 80.7, 85.2 and 106.4.

If you are unfamiliar with moving averages, using our method for the 3-month period centered on March, 2013, we added up all the daily sunspot numbers from February 1 through April 30. The sum was 7,581.

We divided by the 89 days in those three months, and got approximately 85.2. For the period centered on April, we added all sunspot numbers from March 1 through May 31, and the sum was 9,792. As there were 92 days in this period, the average rounds off to 106.4.

On June 3 NASA updated their forecast for the peak of the current solar cycle, available at <http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/predict.shtml>. This differs from a month earlier, when on May 1 they predicted a cycle maximum in Fall 2013 with a smoothed international sunspot number of 66. Now they predict a peak at 67 in summer 2013. Summer officially begins at the Solstice, two weeks from today, on June 21 at 0504 UTC, which by the way is the Friday before Field Day weekend.

The active geomagnetic days over the past week were June 1-2, when the planetary A index was 49 and 19, the mid-latitude index was 41 and 16, and the high latitude college A index (measured near Fairbanks, Alaska) was 58 and 44. These numbers reflect the concentration of geomagnetic activity toward the poles. The source was an interplanetary shock wave of uncertain origin.

Again as this bulletin is written early Friday morning on the West Coast, we are in a geomagnetic storm, the result of the Earth passing through south-pointing magnetism in the solar wind. There is a possibility on June 8 of getting buffeted again, this time the result of a CME, and possibly two.

The planetary A index was 17 on June 6, with increasing K-index values from 2 to 3 to 4. Now early on June 7 we see planetary K-index of 5 and 6, which is the equivalent to an A index reading of 64. Now after 1200 UTC it dropped to 56.

The Australian Space Forecast center issued a geomagnetic disturbance warning at 0217 UTC on June 7. It reads, "A CME from a disappearing solar filament has arrived earlier than anticipated and is accompanied by a strongly southward pointing magnetic field. This is producing Minor Storm levels of activity in polar regions and may produce Active conditions at mid latitudes over the next 1-2 days." They predict a minor Geomagnetic storm today, June 7, and unsettled to active conditions through the weekend, June 8-9.

The latest prediction from USAF/NOAA is for solar flux at 110 on June 7, 105 on June 8-9, 100 on June 10, 95 on June 11-12, 100 and 105 on June 13-14, 120 on June 15-16, 125 on June 17-19, then with flux values bottoming out at 105 on June 24-28, and rising to 125 on July 2 and again on July 14-16.

Predicted planetary A index is 18 on June 7-8, then 10 and 8 on June 9-10, 5 on June 11-20, then 25, 18, 10 and 8 on June 21-24, 5 on June 25-27, then 30, 20, 12, 8, 5, 8, 12, 10 and 5 on June 28 through July 6.

Petr Kolman, OK1MGW predicted a quiet geomagnetic field for June 7 (the prediction was sent around 1900 UTC on June 6), mostly quiet June 8-9, quiet June 10, quiet to unsettled June 11, quiet to active June 12-14, mostly quiet June 15-17, quiet June 18, quiet to unsettled June 19-20, active to disturbed June 21, quiet to active June 22-23, quiet to unsettled June 24, mostly quiet June 25-26, quiet to active June 27, and active to disturbed June 28-29. You can see quite a difference from the NOAA/USAF prediction in the previous paragraph, but the NOAA forecasters have the advantage of revising their forecast every 24 hours, while OK1HH and OK1MGW only do it once per week.

Bert Cook, K6CSL of Riverbank, California, which is northeast of Modesto in the San Joaquin Valley, wrote to comment about the ARRL Propagation Charts. He finds them useful, but said the monthly charts are never available until well into the new month. I checked and learned these are prepared by the lab at ARRL headquarters, but the delay is due to some technical issues that may not be resolved right away.

As these are prepared using the VOACAP prediction engine, I suggested an alternative that should suit his needs if he would rather not set up the VOACAP program himself. Several months back we mentioned the subscription service at <http://www.k6tu.net>. There is a free 30-day trial, and if you should choose to continue, the subscription cost is reasonable. This has the advantage of customization for the user's exact location, plus you can make predictions for future months as well.

You can also customize your account for antennas and power levels, and when you run the program it emails you a set of URLs for the bands you have chosen as well as the region, either North America or world wide. Rather than look at these online, I found it much better to download the PDF files, then page through the 24 hourly pages for each band. You get a set of beautifully rendered maps with colors corresponding to coverage areas and signal levels. When you can quickly flip through these after downloading, you watch the projection of the signal levels for different areas progress across the map, hour-by-hour.

Another alternative is to use the free W6ELprop software for Windows computers. Check the K9LA tutorial at <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/propagation/W6elprop.pdf>, and you can download the software at <http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/>. W6ELprop is free, but K6TU tells me he is about to add some great new features to his service.

Larry Nelson, K5IJB of El Paso, Texas reports: "Several 6-meter CW beacon stations were very helpful last Sunday (June 2) when listening for band openings. From about mid-morning up to noon, these beacons were S9 as the band opened to the West and mid-West from El Paso: N0LL/B, N7DGI/B, WB0RMO/B, W5GPM/B and N0SAP/B. I made several CW and SSB contacts using the Icom 703 (10 watts) to a homebrew vertical dipole at 25 feet."

## The K7RA Solar Report

Lou DiChiaro, WB2IJT reported, "As a Navy civilian physicist, I don't get to spend much time on the air during the work week. However, I do occasionally get on the air over the weekends. This past Saturday (June 1) was an extraordinary day for Es on 6 meters. I'm running 100 watts out from an IC-7000 to a large loop antenna running around the inside perimeter of my attic (to avoid the wrath of the subdivision esthetics enforcers). From Grid Square FM29 (Delaware) I worked in quick succession a number of Florida stations, some in Georgia, Arkansas, and Missouri. One of the Georgia stations measured S9+20 dB on the S meter (he was running a KW into a 5 element Yagi - it helps!).

"It was a band opening to remember. And I'll bet you're getting lots of reports like mine. Hopefully, we'll get lots more openings like this from Old Sol before he runs out of hydrogen and starts burning helium in his core."

And finally, Jeff Hartley, N8II reports from West Virginia: "From 0245-0400Z Friday May 31 I caught the best conditions towards EU on 15M I can ever remember so late in the evening, in 42 years on the air. Since the solar flux was around 120, my guess would be there as a sporadic-E link to the opening on the North American end, but the stations worked were in daylight ranging from around sunrise to mid morning. Prefixes worked in order from 0242-0306Z on 15 CW were DJ2, UT7, UA3, UT9, RA1, RA4LW (S9+5dB, then +20 dB at 0330Z!), UK8OWW, SP7. Then, I tried some CQs on 12M with no answer and scanned 10M towards EU where there were no signals to the NE including beacons, but several W6 beacons were loud via double hop Es. I went back to 15 CW at 0328Z and worked RU4, YO4, LA6, RZ6, UB6, UR4, UX7, RD3, UA6, and LZ2 thru 0352Z.

"I made a quick check of 15 SSB and found Ed, 4Z4UR who was S9. He mentioned he uses WWV near Fort Collins on 20 MHz often as a propagation indicator for NA, a smart idea. He says he can frequently hear WWV around 0300-0400Z at this time of year indicating a band opening which I would guess rarely extends as far east as my QTH in FM19cj. I checked 15 the next night around the same time and there was no opening to anywhere.

"On June 1 from 0125-0149Z, I did catch UN5C and UN5J with good signals on 17M CW as well as FO8WBB, ZL1BD, and a VP2V on 12M. 10M was dead including beacons. During the day I worked the Alabama QSO party in which even 10M was open to Alabama on Es from 19Z thru about 0020Z, though it was not utilized by most Alabama stations. All of the stations I asked to QSY to 10M up from 15 or 20M were successfully logged mostly with very strong signals. 15 was fairly active on CW and 20 was in great shape with strong signals all day until about 0120Z. 40M was barely usable at first, but was open from here pretty well from 2045Z onward. The high bands were the best ever to Alabama in the ALQP from here. In the late afternoon, I also worked AF3X/M on 20 roaming around the NYC boroughs with S9 signals only about 250 miles away.

"I operated part time in the WPX CW contest May 25-26 on 20M. Conditions were disturbed at the beginning, then quite so Saturday 1200Z thru at least 0300Z Sunday. There were some very loud southern and central EU at the start thru around 0115Z when the band gradually closed. A few Russians and Asians were found, but were almost gone by 0215Z whereas normally I have run pile ups from western Asiatic and European Russians from 0200-0400Z on 20 CW. Sunday 0100-0200Z was pretty much rock bottom, but I managed somehow to work all continents except EU during that time. RC9O who would normally peak around 20 degrees peaked around 310 degrees on a very skewed path and was only about S4. SA was loud and I worked KH7 and ZL3. Sunday at 1400Z, 20 seemed back to near normal as it did at 2345Z, but I only had time to operate mainly in the 14Z hour when many northern EU stations not possible to work before due to conditions were logged."

Sunspot numbers for May 30 through June 5 were 71, 58, 60, 76, 99, 59, and 81, with a mean of 72. 10.7 cm flux was 104.1, 101.8, 105.8, 110.9, 111.8, 109.9, and 108.8, with a mean of 107.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 9, 49, 19, 10, 10, and 6, with a mean of 15.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 7, 41, 16, 9, 10, and 9, with a mean of 13.4.

### **FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST**

Meets every Friday morning from 8 am until about 9:30 am. An informal gathering of ham folks, no affiliations necessary, good food and good company.

*Everyone is welcome to attend.*

***"Morning Glory Restaurant"***  
**9155 Alpine Street**  
**Rockford, IL 61108**



## For Sale or Trade

### Code Practice Oscillator MiniKits

For sale. \$10 each, includes schematic. All boards are assembled and tested. Circuit will easily drive headphones or a small speaker. Each board measures approximately 1.25" square and is great for mounting in a small project box or on a wooden board. See Dennis K9VMY at the next club meeting, or contact via e-mail [k9vmy@arrl.net](mailto:k9vmy@arrl.net). Note: shipping is not included.

## HamFest Information

### Starved Rock Radio Club Hamfest Starved Rock Amateur Radio Club Sunday, June 2

Bureau County Fairgrounds  
811 West Peru Street  
Princeton, IL 61356

Matthew Weaver, KB9VZH  
319 DeSoto Street  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
815-313-5924  
[mweaver@vactor.com](mailto:mweaver@vactor.com)  
Talk-in 146.955 minus (PL 103.5)

### Six Meter Club of Chicago Hamfest Sunday, June 16

Wheaton Fairgrounds  
2015 Manchester Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187

Mike Huedepohl, WD9GJK  
3532 Raymond Avenue  
Brookfield, IL 60513  
708-485-5481 (after 1800)  
[wd9jjk@attl.net](mailto:wd9jjk@attl.net)  
Talk-in 146.52;146.37/97 (PL 107.2)

### South Milwaukee ARC

#### Hamfest

Saturday 07/06/2013

American Legion Post #434  
9327 South Shepard Avenue  
Oak Creek, WI 53154  
<http://www.qsl.net/wa9txe>

Talk-In: 146.52 + local repeaters  
Contact: Robert Kastelic , WB9TIK  
PO Box 222 South Milwaukee, WI 53172-0222  
Phone: 414-764-3871  
Email: [wb9tik@arrl.net](mailto:wb9tik@arrl.net)

### Fox River Radio League

#### Hamfest

Sunday 07/14/2013

Aurora Central Catholic High School  
1255 North Edgelawn Drive  
Aurora, IL 60504  
<http://frrl.org>

Talk-In: 147.210 +600 (PL 103.5)  
Contact: Dawn Williams , KC9LQS  
PO Box 673 Batavia, IL 60510  
Phone: 630-531-1670  
Email: [hamfest@frrl.org](mailto:hamfest@frrl.org)

## Treasurers Report

### PRIMARY CHECKING:

Beginning Balance 4/30/13	1,893.63
Deposits	0
Withdrawals	0
<b>Ending Balance 5/28/13</b>	<b>1,893.63</b>

### ORGANIZATION SAVINGS:

Beginning Balance 4/30/13	3,223.38
Interest Earned	0
<b>Ending Balance 5/28/13</b>	<b>3,223.38</b>

### REPEATER COMMITTEE CHECKING:

Beginning Balance 4/30/13	300.00
<b>Ending Balance 5/28/13</b>	<b>300.00</b>

Shannon K. Larson KC9QBC  
Treasure, RARA

## Amateur Radio Commemorative Postage Stamp

Back in the 1960's the U S Post Office released a stamp commemorating 50 years of Amateur Radio, basically recognizing 50 years of organized amateur radio, i.e. the ARRL. But it did legitimize a time frame as to when the government recognized amateur radio as a positive thing. Next year 2014 marks the 100th anniversary of Amateur radio under the same standards. The Post Office I'm told has already announced a tentative 2014 commemorative stamp schedule and a 100th anniversary of amateur radio stamp is not in the plans.

I for one would like to see a FOREVER AMATEUR RADIO STAMP, be it in 2014 or whenever they might issue it. If you agree, I encourage you to write your U S Senators and House of Representative Members and perhaps also email the U S P S with words of encouragement for such a stamp. Bill Beyer, K3ZIV has already started this movement with an email to a representative who agreed to cast one note of support to the Postal Committee that decides stamps. If a large contingent of Senators and Representatives also presented support, this could happen. What do you think and are you will to write an email or two in support of a Forever Amateur Radio stamp?

After all if the USPS can issue a sheet of muscle car stamps (and they did), is Amateur Radio any less important? Just our help in times of spot emergencies should warrant some consideration.

Please use a letter written and addressed to your United States Representatives and Senators. E-mail is killing the USPS. Please don't add insult to injury by not using a stamped envelope. An e-mail in this situation would be inappropriate at best.

Page WA3EOP





P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Website: www.w9axd.org

E-mail: jholich@comcast.net

<u>Nets</u>		
Monday 8 PM	RARA Info.	146.610 - 114.8 PL
	RARA	147.000 - 114.8 PL
Monday 9 PM	10M SSB Net	28.375 +/- USB
Daily 6 PM	Illinois Traffic Net	3.905 LSB

place address label here

# June, 2013

## ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Single Adult: \$25.00 Adult w/Family: \$30.00  
Single Senior: \$15.00 Senior w/Family: \$20  
Student: \$15.00

Above rate includes the RARA monthly newsletter, Ham Rag, via email.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Retired \_\_\_\_\_

Radio Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Other Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 8465  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61126